

M6 junction 10

June 2021



Introduction

At Highways England, it's our job to plan, design, build, operate and maintain England's motorways and major A-roads.

Our mission is to connect the country, and we make these connections across six regions. In the Midlands, we have a network of over 1800 miles of motorways and A-roads that sits at the centre of England's transport network.

Our major roads like the M1 and the M6, connect the Midlands to local roads and with the rest of the UK, and the world through ports and airports.

As part of our investment in the Midlands, we're making improvements to M6 junction 10. Once complete, this will ease congestion and reduce journey times for the thousands of drivers who use it every day.

Why we're doing the work

The congestion at M6 junction 10 affects the local community and businesses daily, particularly during morning and evening peak times. Queuing on the roundabout and the motorway slip roads, the A454 Black Country Route and other roads leading to the junction affects journey times.

Benefits

Once complete, the scheme will provide a freer-flowing network by:

- reducing congestion on the A454 Black Country Route eastbound to improve journey time reliability, critical to the needs of local residents, businesses and the Black Country Enterprise Zone
- reducing congestion on other roads linking to the junction, such as A454 Wolverhampton Road, B4464 Wolverhampton Road West and Bloxwich Lane
- reducing 'rat-running' traffic on nearby routes parallel to the A454 Black Country Route, the A454 Wolverhampton Road and the B4464 Wolverhampton Road West
- replacing the bridge structures over the M6, avoiding major maintenance work on the structures in the future
- improving conditions for cyclists and pedestrians

The story so far

Since we started work in January 2020, we've:

- installed narrow lanes on the local network and introduced speed restrictions and free recovery within the work area
- cleared vegetation from around the junction
- dug up earth from some areas and used it to fill and level other areas
- installed new drainage systems
- started widening and resurfacing on A454 Black Country Route
- started constructing the new supports for the replacement bridges



New supports in place ready for the new bridge.

What's next?

Over the next few months, we'll be working largely at the side of the road behind temporary barriers. We'll continue building supports for the new bridge. We aim to complete most of our work overnight. However, you'll notice us working during the day as we continue to install large drainage systems across the junction.

We'll also be:

- installing beams and deck to the North Bridge
- installing large retaining walls
- installing new drainage to slips and local roads
- preparing slip roads and local roads for surfacing

An update from Transport for West Midlands



Transport for West Midlands is striving to deliver a world-class integrated transport system which is clean, safe and affordable. One which puts people at the heart of decisions and gives everyone in the West Midlands access to the very best education, training and employment opportunities, no matter where they live in the region. Our customer information arm; West Midlands Network, keeps road and public transport users in the know, keeping them updated on developments across the region and what they can do to keep moving.

We are working with Highways England and other stakeholders including SISK and Walsall Council to help keep you informed about what's happening on M6 junction 10. There will be work happening on the junction during the beginning of July. During the works, there will be changes to some roads, including road closures. This will affect car drivers and bus users, who will be diverted to allow the work to take place. Traffic through this area will be affected at various times.

Travel advice:

You will still be able to get to where you need to go but roads may be busier than usual, so you'll need to plan ahead and leave more time for your journey. More travel advice will be provided at a later date, visit wmnetwork.co.uk/m6j10 to stay up to date.

How can we help?

Follow us on social media to stay up to date on what is happening @WMRoads and @WMNetwork.

If you are a business and would like support you can contact our team of travel choice specialists at travelchoices@tfwm.org.uk, who can support with staff travel planning. Or visit: wmnetwork.co.uk/m6j10 regularly to receive the latest information and advice on travelling around while works are taking place. We are here to support you to keep moving and to plan ahead.

Working in the community

We want to put you, our customer and the whole community at the heart of everything we do.

We're here for the next year or so and want to give back to the community to help minimise the disruption our building work can cause to everyday life.

Wooden toy donations

Apprentices working for our contractor, Sisk made some wooden toys that we recently donated to The Jane Lane School.

The school is for pupils who have moderate learning difficulties. The majority of pupils have additional needs including autism, speech, language and communication difficulties. We're also planning to help the school with some vegetation clearance, so they can complete their sensory garden project.



Wooden toys donated to a local school in Walsall.

Donations 2020

During December 2020, we worked with local food banks and charities to support them in the run up to Christmas with food, clothing and toy donations. We donated:

- children's toys to the Black Country Women's Aid to support women and their children during Christmas
- new socks and chocolates to a 'Socs and Chocs' depot
- 300 mince pies to Midland Langar Seva Society to support homeless people in the community

Foodbank donations

Since starting work on site, we've been collecting and donating food to local foodbanks. We recently donated some Easter eggs to Walsall North Foodbank, a local charity that provides food and support to local people in crisis.



Easter bunnies / eggs donated to Walsall North Foodbank.

Weekend closure - Friday 2 July to Monday 5 July

What are we doing?

As part of the improvement work, we'll replace the two existing bridges with two new, four-lane bridges to increase capacity.

We'll be lifting the beams into place for the new North Bridge, which spans the length of the junction. The steel beams are each 44 metres wide, that's the equivalent of about three buses. This is a large task and will involve a team of more than 50 workers.

To put these beams in place, we'll need to use specialist cranes, some 50 metres high. To do this work safely, we'll need to close the M6 for the whole weekend.

Why are we doing it?

The current bridge is no longer fit for purpose to carry the increasing amounts of traffic we have seen over the past few decades. We'll replace the bridge with a new four-lane bridge.

Once all the work is complete, this will allow more vehicles to cross the junction, improving

journey times. We'll need to carry out the same work on the South Bridge in 6-8 weeks' time.

To do this, we'll need to close the M6 once again. We'll let you know in advance before we do this.

What will be closed and when?

We'll close the M6 in both directions between the junction 10 exit and entry slip roads. We'll put the closure in place at **8pm on Friday 2 July and will reopen the motorway before 6am on Monday 5 July.**

Diversion route

We're using an 'up and over' diversion, which will see traffic leave the motorway at junction 10, travel over the roundabout and then re-join the M6 on the other side of the junction.

During this time, please plan ahead and allow extra time for your journey.

Advice for long distance journeys

Road users should expect long delays and should avoid the area if possible. If you're planning to use the M6 to head north to south or south to north, please consider using alternative routes like the M1.

Advice for local journeys

Local roads in the surrounding area are likely to experience significant delay. If you're making a local journey, you may wish to consider using public transport wherever possible, or walking or cycling for shorter trips.

For information on public transport, please visit: travelchoices@tfwm.org.uk



What do you think?

Soon, we'll be launching Every Customer Has an Opinion (ECHO), an innovative new feedback tool on our scheme webpage. This will give you the chance to let us know what you think about our work at M6 junction 10.

Using an interactive map, you'll be able to pinpoint the precise location of something you've seen and want to let us know about.

Once you've added your comments, you can submit the online form to send them directly to us. By letting us know what you think about the scheme, we can quickly correct anything that's not quite right.

We'll also use your feedback to help shape our future decisions, so we're always doing the best for you.

How you can get in touch with us

For more information about this scheme, please contact us.



Telephone:
0300 123 5000



Email:
**M6junction10improvement@
highwaysengland.co.uk**



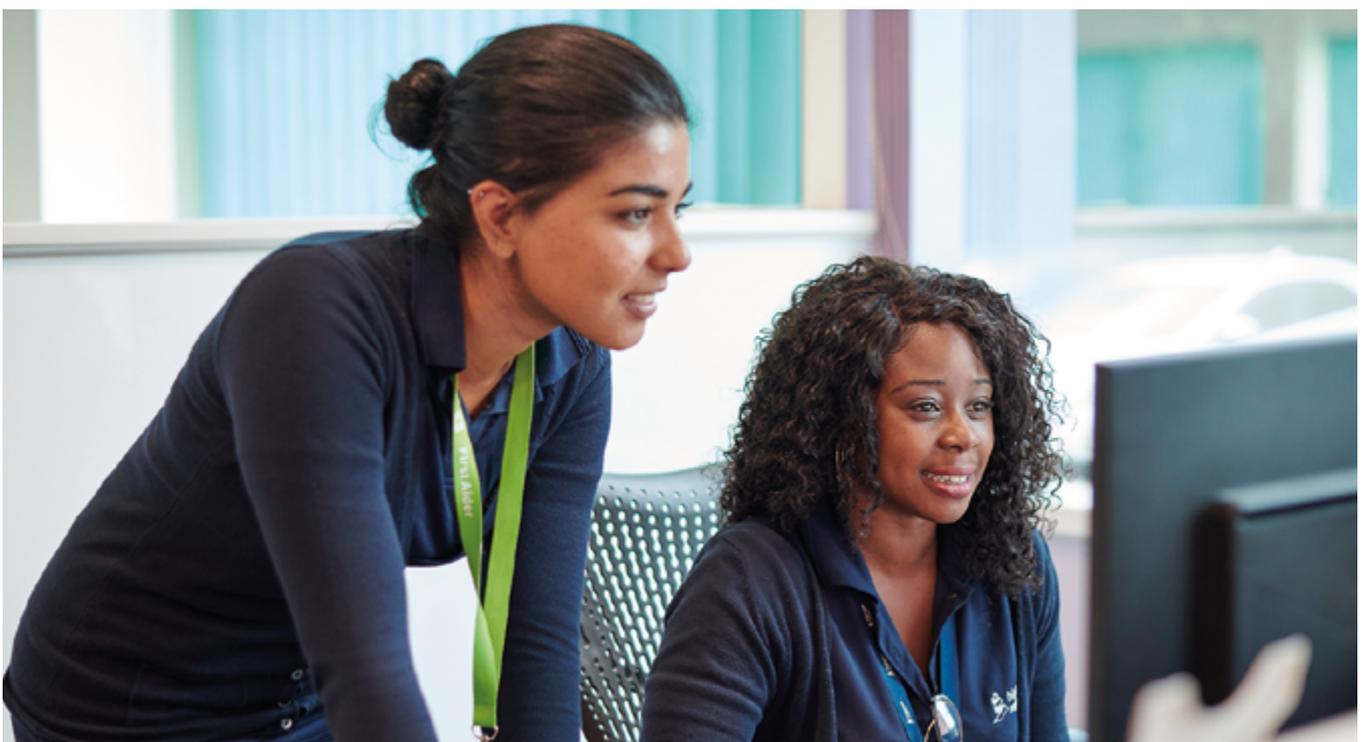
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Please quote the Highways England publications code **PR62/21**.

Highways England creative job number BHM21_0051

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Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ

Highways England Company Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363